

EDUCATION.

To the Honorable the Legislative Council of New South Wales.

The humble petition of the Bishop of the Diocese of Australia, and of the Clergy of the same, within the colony aforesaid.

Sheweth,—That with reference to a

passage in the Report of the Select Committee on Education, recently presented to your honorable Council, wherein it is assumed that out of nearly 26,000 children in this colony, between the ages of four and fourteen years, there are about 13,000 "who receive no education at all;" although your petitioners entertain no doubt that this assumption may be true so far as your Committee know, "they having no direct evidence either way before them," yet your petitioners are in a condition to assure your honorable Council that the statement is, to a great extent, unfounded; and that, even so far as it is accurate, it should lead to no conclusion unfavourable to the system of Education which is now under the direction of your petitioners.

Your petitioners desire, with all possible respect for the members of the Select Committee, to observe, that in assuming every child to be uneducated as to the fact of whose education direct evidence could not be afforded, they have applied a criterion or principle of judgment which could not but lead to an erroneous conclusion.

Stating the result of their own experience, your petitioners would urge upon the observation of your honorable Council, that either by the attention of the parents, or through the occasional aid and interference of the clergy and other well disposed persons, or in schools maintained without any assistance from Government, a considerable proportion of these children, of that class for which a system of general education is proposed, are already under a course of instruction, such as may perfectly qualify them to understand and to fulfil the duties of that station of life in which they are likely to be placed.

That your petitioners have no intention of confining this observation to their own community: but believe it to be proportionally true of all others; and they, as a point of duty, notice this in order that an assertion so likely to create an impression unfavourable to the colony may not go abroad without contradiction from those who know it to be not well founded.

Moreover, in proof of their assertion, that the numbers (unhappily too great, as your petitioners have no disposition to deny) who really are growing up without education should lead to no conclusion unfavourable to the system of education now maintained at the public charge, they desire to remark, that a very large proportion of these are to be found in Sydney and other towns, where excellent schools are provided, to which, however, notwithstanding the continued efforts and exhortations of your petitioners, many parents cannot be induced to send their children.

Abstracting, therefore, the classes to whom these explanations are applicable, your honorable Council will not fail further to consider that of the remainder assumed in the Report of the Select Committee to be without education, very many are scattered in remote and widely separated situations, in which it is not only just cause of discredit to the present system that it does not assemble them in schools, nor afford them separate education in their own dwellings, but your petitioners are confident that by no other system which can be introduced, will it be found practicable in the present condition of society in this country, to accomplish either of those objects.

With reference to the alleged average expense of one pound per annum for every child educated in the public schools, your petitioners are sensible that it is a comparatively high amount. But they would submit, in explanation, that independently of the actual cost of education, an annual charge for repairs and books is to be allowed for in schools established previously to 1837; the system, also, according to which those schools are supported, is that of allowing a fixed salary to every master and mistress. This system must necessarily occasion an increase of the average charge, because, from local circumstances, many schools of this class can be attended only by a limited number of scholars. The greater proportion of such salaries to teachers were granted more than twenty years ago; and in justification of them your Petitioners would remark, that they are not aware by what other means it would have been at that time practicable, nor how it would be practicable even now, to secure the services of teachers in any degree qualified to conduct schools in thinly inhabited districts, and where the people themselves had either not the ability or not the inclination to provide from their own resources for the remuneration of the schoolmasters.

But the effect of this system, thus establishing the attendance of salaries attached, where most evident, could not be numerous, chargeable, not only to make the "for education high in every such separate school, but to increase the general average cost of the system collectively; and to raise it higher in instances of that denomination which should have the greatest number of salaried teachers employed in the least populous neighbourhoods, which is the case of the Church of England.

Your petitioners therefore think it due to themselves to observe, that it is not to anything in their management of their schools that the higher average cost of education in them is attributable. It may be possible, by stating the fact without the proper explanation, to raise a contrast which shall, for the moment, appear disadvantageous to them, but the force of which disappears as soon as the true circumstances are made known; and should it be the pleasure of your honorable Council to fix a maximum or average expenditure for the education of every child, your petitioners beg it may be understood, that they are prepared to educate upon such terms, as large proportionate numbers, and to educate them as well as shall be accomplished by any other body to which the superintendence of schools could be entrusted.

With reference to the system of general education recommended to the Council by the Select Committee, your petitioners desire permission most respectfully to express their serious, deliberate, and insurmountable objection to the principle upon which that system is founded; by abstract

reasoning, and by actual observation, they are alike convinced that there can be no proposal more open to objection than that an insupportable and indelible line of separation should be drawn between secular and religious education, or between learning and religion; to the intent that each may have its separate season and its own province upon which the other shall not be suffered to intrude.

Your petitioners beg leave to state, that even were all men of one persuasion in religion, this is a distinction which they could not possibly submit to; neither can they consent to adopt it when proposed as an expedient for meeting the difficulties arising from religious difference.

Your petitioners are also obliged to impress upon the consideration of Your honorable Council, that they could not venture, in their capacity of clergymen, and consistently with the engagements under which they became such, to enter into any connexion with schools to be conducted upon the terms proposed. The very condition of such connexion, it is proposed shall be the exaction from your petitioners of a virtual pledge that they will not attempt, except within the narrowest limits, and under the most jealous reservations, either to impart truths, which they believe they are not at liberty to stipulate that they will at any time positively abstain from enforcing, or to confute errors against which the youthful mind, in particular, requires to be at all times carefully guarded.

Your petitioners must not omit to observe how serious an objection it forms to the system of education recommended by the Committee, that on the matter of religious teaching there cannot exist the religious cordiality and community of feeling, or of confidential intercourse between the clergyman and the schoolmaster. They clearly perceive that while this interdiction is an essential part of the system by which religion is excluded during the hours of secular teaching, and the well-disposed schoolmaster is prohibited from acting as the ally and supporter of the clergyman, there can be no corresponding security that irreligion may not be actually and indirectly instilled when the schoolmaster happens to be, covertly, a man of a sceptical turn of mind; viewing the effect likely to be produced upon the minds of the children brought up under such a system of tuition, your petitioners cannot conceal from themselves how injurious, if not fatal, to the formation of religious habits and feelings, it must be to have the opposition between secular and Christian teaching continually presented to their thoughts, and rendered familiar to the notice of the learners during that period of life at which it is well known, if ideas be implanted or impressions made, they can hardly ever afterwards be eradicated or effaced.

Your petitioners will not farther intrude themselves upon the attention of Your honorable Council, with a statement of the numerous reasons upon which they found the objections entertained by them to the mode in which it is proposed to admit them, or persons approved by them, to superintend at stated seasons only, a course of religious instruction. But this system having been described in the Report of the Select Committee, as "the only plan sufficiently comprehensive to include both Protestant and Catholic, your petitioners consider it incumbent on them to observe, that if it be meant hereby to describe this system as fitted to include the case of the Church of England, they must most distinctly maintain the contrary; and decline on behalf of themselves and of the Church of England throughout the world, to be bound by the opinion thus expressed.

Your petitioners beg to add that in withdrawing, as they would be compelled, firmly and respectfully to do, from any interference with the management of general education, should compliance with the principle recommended by the Select Committee be required as the condition of their adherence, they are not unaware of the deep responsibility which they must incur; accordingly your petitioners request your honorable Council to be assured that such a determination has not been hastily adopted, but only after long, calm, and careful deliberation among themselves, have they arrived at the persuasion which they now, with the utmost deference, communicate, that they could not with prudence, or with a good conscience, make themselves parties to the proposed plan; and that any sacrifice, it appears to them, must be better than that of their principles.

Your petitioners, in conclusion, request permission to direct the attention of the instruction under which the Select Committee were appointed to devise the means of placing the education of the youth upon a basis suited to the wants and wishes of the community. As a convincing proof that the system of education now proposed does not fulfil the latter condition, your petitioners would refer to the dition, your petitioners have addressed representations which have been presented to your honorable Council from nearly every part of the Colony, expressing the general disapprobation with which the measure is regarded by the public at large. Your Petitioners are confident that if all the stress to which they are entitled, be allowed to those representations, the proposed plan will not receive the sanction of your honorable Council, which has, on numerous occasions, expressed its sense of the propriety of legislating in accordance with the known wishes of the community.

Your petitioners therefore take the liberty of urging that if this principle is to prevail in ordinary cases, much more should it prevail in the present; petitions in opposition to the proposed measure have been presented, bearing signatures more numerous, in a threefold proportion, than were ever annexed to applications to this honorable Council in the case of measures by which the temporal rights and interests of Petitioners were supposed to be affected.

Your petitioners therefore pray that your honorable Council will be by no means induced to concur in a recommendation opposed to the judgment and principles, no less than to the expressed wishes of so numerous and reflecting a portion of the community; the effect of which concurrence on the part of your honorable Council would be to compel your petitioners, either to abandon their just claim to public support for schools, or to apply for and receive it upon terms which are at variance with their consciences. They appeal with

confidence to your Honorable Council for no more than this simple act of justice; that whatever shall be the general features of the system decided on, it may be one which at least provides for granting aid in a fair proportion, to schools in arched connexion with the Church of England; or in which its prayers may be employed, its doctrines taught and explained, and the free use of the Holy Scriptures be at all times allowed as heretofore, under the direction and superintendence of your petitioners.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Here follow 58 signatures.)

EXTRACTS.

TO YOUR SHIPS, O FRANCE!

(From the Times, June 7.)

"If we were not credibly informed that the French King had pulled his sailor's ears for allowing the publication of his 'Notes' on the state of the French navy, we should certainly think that very shrewd counsel had been a 'finger in the eye.' The aspect of the pamphlet is one of hostility to England. It is all very well to talk of using the name of this country as an abstract representative of naval power—to speak of war as a mere hypothesis, necessary for the purpose of illustrating the writer's argument—all very well to disclaim all 'narrow animosity or even national rivalry'; but we all know what is at present the spirit of the French navy towards our own, and we can all see that the mode in which the Prince de Joinville dwells upon our present activity, the perils arising from our steam navy, and corresponding, but hitherto undeveloped means of annoyance which the invention of steam has placed in the hands of France, amounts to an indication of sympathy with those who openly call for war with us, whom they are gratuitously pleased to designate in advance and treat as their 'enemy.' Yet the moral of the royal essay is a sage one, not at all unworthy of his foreseeing father, though not at all inconsistent with the aspirations of his war party. 'Put yourselves in fighting order,' says the Prince, 'but don't think of quarrelling just now, for you will always be beaten. The Chamber is always liberal in the marine service. Increase your steam navy enormously. Build separate classes of vessels for each separate service—large frigates for distant stations where there is no coal—repeating steamers in which every thing is sacrificed to swiftness, large armed steamers to defend our own and menace the British coasts—to make light in the Channel and command the Mediterranean—keep up an experimental steam squadron of at least twenty vessels of war, and above all prepare yourselves, on the first shot that is fired, to pounce upon British Commerce.'

On this latter branch of French tactics, he is pleased to speak with unctious. If the fleets of France, have been uniformly beaten, her cruisers, he tells us, have been almost always fortunate; and he anticipates similar success in any future war. We were puzzled for a moment to understand what he meant. But he shortly explains himself, and we must allow that his aspirations are not of a presumptuous order. 'In the Channel and the Mediterranean,' he tells us, 'the office of cruisers may be well intrusted to steam packets. Those which in peace serve as packets, under their swiftness, make excellent privateers (corsaires) in time of war. They could overtake a merchant vessel, plunder her, burn her, and escape from the steamers of war themselves, whose movements would be retarded by their heavy construction.' This warfare is not of the most glorious kind, but we doubt not that France has officers whose talent is peculiarly adapted to it. The name of Dupetit Thouars—the subduer of savages, the vanquisher of principles in the family way, will occur to every one as a commander whose genius and courage eminently fit him for the complicated operations of burning a merchantman and running away from an armed steamer. His rank, indeed, as an admiral, may disqualify him for the guerilla warfare. But the kindest spirit must surely be found in those gentlemen and sailors who are subscribing to give him (of all things in the world) a sword. Amongst these the Prince de Joinville can be at no difficulty in offering his privateering steam-packets.

Yet we cannot help suspecting, that even in these run-away tactics the Prince overrates the opportunities of his countrymen. He may depend upon it that they shall not be behindhand in filling the Channel with fast steamers whose movements may be not quite so much retarded as he seems to contemplate by their heavy construction. He does us no more than justice in supposing that we are not asleep—that we feel the vital importance of our own commerce, and shall be ready to put forth, without delay, our whole energies to defend and avenge it. Meanwhile it is not unamusing to see the royal author, pointing his chickens—though we venture to hope that he has not yet taken to the water to hatch them for him.

His visions, however, produce an obvious effect upon his countenance, and he probably enables his august father to carry into effect, without opposition, any naval project, corresponding in its way to the late fortifications of Paris, by which it may be his pleasure to increase the security of the country in general, and of his own dynasty in particular. But, lest their enthusiasm should become inconvenient, the Prince tempers his visions of success by a dose of wholesome, but exceedingly unpalatable truths of a most sedative kind, and productive certainly of a very instructive variety of ways among the French press, which can neither disprove nor digest them. We must not disguise from ourselves, he says, that in this very matter of steam, which is to change the face of naval warfare—to turn the tables, to give France a fresh chance upon the sea, England is at present so unaccountably, so immeasurably ahead of us, that the day after war was declared, we might possibly hear of the destruction of Dunkirk, Boulogne, De Havre, &c., which nothing can protect from bombardment. Nay more, four years ago, when France had twenty ships of war in the Mediterranean, an opportunity was let slip of setting upon the English fleet at an anchorage. 'The national sentiment was deeply wounded' (vivement blessé) at the loss of so

glorious an opportunity. The Prince participates in the popular feeling. The omission was distressing; but, he adds, it was inevitable. Even victory would have been ruinous. The French fleet of 20 ships—the first and the last 20 ships that France could send forth in fighting order, would have, at least, returned to Toulon conquerors, but shattered to pieces. England—inexhaustible England—would have poured forth her fresh armaments; and the rising French navy would have been again annihilated. The recall of the fleet in 1840 was an humiliation, but a necessary one, and must be repeated on the next occasion, when similar circumstances shall present themselves.

We need hardly suggest what would have been the fate of M. Guizot, if he had ventured on such a statement as this. His head and the throne of his master would have been dear at a week's purchase. But now, that such assertions are thrown out without a doubt or qualification by a young and popular Prince, who comes forward under the war banner, and shows his sincerity by the highly practical character of his advice, the press is wholly puzzled. Some gulp the opprobrium, and thank the writer for his candour. Some look at it and shake their heads, or turn it over with a dissatisfied growl, as an hungry dog would an empty trencher. Some fairly take up the cudgels, and let fly at the head of the Prince, as a presumptuous young man, who had no business to entertain such notions, and is next door to a traitor for publishing them. On the whole, amidst such enlogies, there seems a considerable disposition to play a 'none of my child' with the young man. For ourselves, if we must express a general opinion on the subject, it appears to us a well written production, of much truth, by which we hope neither his or our own countrymen will in their different ways neglect to profit.

HINTS TO MAKE HOME HAPPY.

TO HUSBANDS.—Keep up the practice of reading the paper during the whole of breakfast time; of allowing yourself to be spoken to half-a-dozen times before you answer, and then of asking your wife what it was that she said. Upon her telling you, make some reply which is nothing to the purpose, as if you were thinking of something else.

Having been out over night at an event-party, which your wife was prevented from going to by indisposition, entertain her the next morning by a description of the young lady you danced with, describing on every point as enthusiastically as possible. Take frequent opportunities of praising features and personal peculiarities which are as different as possible from your wife's. For instance, if she has blue eyes, say how you like black; if dark hair, say how you admire light; if she is tall, remark that you prefer a moderate height; and if short, be constantly quoting Byron, to the effect that you "like a dumpy woman."

Some wives are very particular about their fenders. Should this be the case with yours, always use it for your footstool. When fresh druggel has been laid down on the stairs, particularly if it is a rainy day, invariably forget to scrape your shoes. Discover, frequently, on a cold raw morning, that the room is close, and insist on having the window open. On the other hand, be as often, during the height of the dog days, affected with a chilliness, which shall oblige you to keep them shut. Very often order dinner punctually at five, and very seldom come home till a quarter to six. Occasionally, however, return at the appointed hour, and not finding things ready, complain that you are never attended to.

In short, on all occasions consult studiously your own inclinations, and indulge without the least restriction, your every whim and caprice; but never regard your wife's feelings at all, still less make the slightest allowance for any weakness or peculiarity of her character; and your home will assuredly be as happy as you deserve that it should be.—Punch.

A HUNTING EXCURSION IN CANADA.

—The next morning, off again as usual, and this day we had hardly any fatigue or mosquitoes, having been posted in boats, at some distance apart, to watch the deer, in case they should take the water when roused by the dogs, a most tame and "cocktail" mode of sporting, which nothing but curiosity would have induced me to adopt. After waiting ineffectually for about three hours without hearing dogs, or seeing deer, I determined to vary the scene by a swim, so I undressed and jumped out of the boat. I had not been a minute in the water when the boatman called out, "Quick, quick, the deer's in the lake!" My clothes were an island at a little distance, for which I made, and catching up my trousers in one hand and my gun in the other, I jumped into the water, seized a paddle and pushed off. The deer, however, was not to be had, and I turned before we got far, and we had a capital race; she swam very fast, and had a long start; however, we gained on her so much that I thought at one time we could have got within shot; but, alas! just as I was thinking of dropping my paddle and taking to my gun, she reached the shore. I fired two despairing shots at her as she scaled the rocks, but the range was too great, and we saw her no more. My chance of sport was now over, and I was brought to my senses by finding myself, naked as I was, a prey to every sort of venomous insect, and with the prospect of a long pull back to the island where I had left my clothes, under a broiling sun, before I could get any covering. There was no help for it, however, and fortunately a little breeze sprang up, which served in some degree to disperse my enemies. After another hour's watch-keeping, my boatman decided that we had no further chance, as the deer and dogs seemed, after being repulsed upon the lake, to have made straight away into the hills; so we pulled to where D— had been stationed (who had not even seen a deer), took him into the boat, and returned without trophy of any kind to the house. We had bespoken a vehicle, a common timber-wagon, to meet us, and by eight or nine o'clock got back to Kingston, after a drive which those who know what a Canadian wagon and a Canadian road are will not be disposed to envy us. Thus ended our expedition.—Godley's Letters.

A TALK OF A TURKEY.—As a certain learned judge in Mexico, some time since, walked one morning into court, he thought he would examine whether he was in time for business; and feeling for his repeater—found it was not in his pocket. "As usual," said he to a friend who accompanied him, as he passed through the crowd near the door—"As usual, I have again left my watch at home under my pillow." He went on the bench and thought no more of it. The court adjourned and he returned home. As soon as he was quietly seated in his parlour, he thought of his wife, requested her to send for it to his chamber. "But, my dear judge," said she, "I sent it to you three hours ago!" "Sent to me, my dear?" Certainly not. "Unquestionably," replied the lady, "and by the person you sent for it!" "The person I sent for it!" echoed the judge. "Precisely, my dear, the very person you sent for it! You had not left home more than an hour, when a well-dressed man knocked at the door and asked to see me. He brought me one of the very finest turkeys I ever saw; and said, that on your way to court you had an Indian with a number of fowls, and having bought this one, quite a bargain, you had given him a couple of reals to bring it home; with the request that I would have it killed, picked, and put to cook, as you intended to invite your brother judges to a dish of *mulle* with you to-morrow. And, 'Oh! by the way Senorita,' said he, 'his excellency the judge requested me to ask you to give yourself the trouble to go to your chamber and take the watch from under the pillow, where he says he left it, as usual, this morning, and send it to him by me. And of course, *mi querido*, I did so." "You did!" said the judge. "Certainly," said the lady. "Well," replied his honor, "all I can say to you, my dear, is, that you are as great a goose as the bird is a turkey. You've been robbed madam; the man was a thief; I never sent for my watch; you've been imposed on; and, as a necessary consequence, the confounded watch is lost for ever!" The trick was a cunning one; and after a laugh, and the restoration of the judge's good humour by a good dinner, it was resolved actually to leave the turkey for to-morrow's dinner, and his honor's brother of the bench, to enjoy so delectable a morsel. Accordingly after the adjournment of court next day, they all repaired to his dwelling, with appetites sharpened by the expectation of a rare repast. Scarcely had they entered the sala and exchanged the ordinary salutations, when the lady broke forth with congratulations to his honor upon the recovery of his stolen watch! "How happy am I," exclaimed she, "that the *vil-lin* was apprehended!" "Apprehended!" said the Judge, with surprise. "Yes; and doubtless convicted, too, by this time," said his wife. "You are always talking idly," replied he; "explain yourself, my dear. I know nothing of thief, watch, or conviction." "It can't be possible that I have been again deceived," quoth the lady, "but this is the story: About one o'clock to-day, a pale and rather interesting young gentleman, dressed in a seedy suit of black, came to the house in great haste—almost out of breath. He said that he was just come from court, that he was one of the clerks; the great villain who had the audacity to steal your honor's watch had just been arrested; that the evidence was nearly perfect to convict him; and all that was required to complete it was 'the turkey, which must be brought into court, and for that he had been sent with a porter by your express orders.' And you gave it to him!" "Of course I did—who could have doubted him, or resisted the orders of a judge?" "Watch—and turkey—both gone! pray, what the devil, madam, are we to do for a dinner?" But the lady had taken care of her guests, notwithstanding her simplicity, and the party enjoyed both the joke and their viands.—Mayer's Mexico as it was.

THE LATE M. LAFITTE.—The Press pays the following tribute of praise to the memory of M. Lafitte:—"M. Lafitte was the son of a carpenter of Bayonne, and from being a simple clerk in the house of Perregaux, came first a partner in, and afterwards the chief of the firm, and was successively named (as early as 1809) Regent, and later Governor, of the Bank of France, member of the Commercial Tribunal of Paris, and President of the Chamber of Commerce. We cannot forget, that M. Lafitte did not hesitate at the time of the first occupation of Paris in 1814, to propose to the heads of the bank, assembled at the Hotel de Ville, to pay, by means of a voluntary subscription, which the state should reimburse when it could, the war contribution about to be levied on Paris, and was the first to sign the resolution. We cannot either forget that after the capitulation of Paris in 1815, when the soldiers imagined that they had been betrayed, when the army was left without bread, for want of funds in the treasury, and the capital menaced with civil war, M. Lafitte came forward and lent 2,000,000 francs to the city without requiring any guarantee; we cannot forget either, that at the period of the commercial crisis, which occurred in 1818, M. Lafitte evinced for the third time the same generosity, which never suffered an occasion of manifesting itself to escape. Thus, when France adopted the children of General Foy, M. Lafitte was the first to set his name down for 50,000 francs. A member of the Chamber of Representatives during the hundred days, elected in 1816 Deputy for Paris, everybody knew the political course he followed, and the influence he exercised under the Restoration.

QUARREL FOR PRECEDENCE: CURIOUS MISCELLANEOUS.—I recollect having witnessed a ridiculous occasion having taken place in Galway. I had been invited, with some other officers of my regiment, to the annual entertainment given by a celebrated sporting community, since defunct, called "The Blazers;" and, being all duly assembled, we were in momentary expectation of receiving a summons to the eating room. Suddenly an uproar was heard within, and a waiter, "with hair erect," rushed into the presence. "What the devil's the matter?" inquired the chairman. "Oh, my lord, my lord!" responded the afflicted attendant; "Come quick, or there will be bloodshed immediately! The servants have fallen out about their rank, and they're murderin' each other with pickled onions!"—Maxwell's Wanderings.

THE MEXICAN LEPER.—Blacken a man in the sun; let his hair grow long and tangled, or become filled with vermin; let him plod about the streets in all kinds of dirt for years, and never know the use of brush, or towel, or water even, except in storms; let him put on a pair of leather breeches, torn and blackened with dirt, and tattered blanket begrimed with abominations; let him have wild eyes, and shining teeth, and features pinched by famine into sharpness; breasts bared and browned, and (if a female) with two or three miniatures of the same species trotting after her, and another certainly strapped to her back; combine all these in your imagination, and you have a recipe for a Mexican leper. There, on the canals, around the markets and *pigue* shops, the Indians and these miserable outcasts hang all day long; feeding on fragments, quarrelling, drinking, stealing, and lying drunk about the pavements, with their children crying with hunger around them. At night they slink off to the damp floors of their lairs, to sleep off the effects of liquor, and to awake to another day of misery and crime. As it is wonderful, in a city with an immense proportion of its inhabitants of such a class, (hopeless in the present and the future,) that there are no murderers and robbers!—Mayer's Mexico.

NIGHT LIFE IN ANTIGUA.—Next to singing, their favourite pastime is to "trip the light fantastic toe." The dancing parties are differently constituted, and consist of dances quadrilles (I am not aware if the gallopades and mazurka have found their way into these *coterie* at present, but as all negroes are great sticklers for fashion, I suppose they have) at others only country dances and reels are introduced; while the Africans are content with their own native dance and their music of the *bango* and *tum-tum*. Christmas is the principal season for these assemblies, although there are subscription balls held once or twice a week in some of the small houses at the back of the town. These meetings may be very agreeable to the negroes, but they are anything but agreeable to those unfortunate who may chance to inhabit houses in the vicinity. Little or no sleep will visit their eyes upon those nights dedicated to gay Terpsichore, and they may be said to misquote Shakespeare, and say, "Dancing murders sleep." The music generally consists of a squeaking fiddle, a tambourine, (upon which they have a peculiar way of performing,) and a triangle, played without any regard to time or melody. The worst characters frequent these houses, and the refreshments are always levied by contributions on the public. Some of the Christmas balls (or, as it is the fashion now to term them, "quadrille parties") are, however, conducted upon a very grand scale. The ball-room is decorated with branches of the coconut, interspersed with the beautiful flowers which, in these sunny climes, grow in such wild profusion, while bouquets of the pimento (or "Christmas-bush," as it is generally called in this country) and the orange-tree, loaded with its tempting fruit, impart a pleasing fragrance throughout the apartment. Around the walls brackets of deal are nailed to support the innumerable tapers which serve to light up this "temple of mirth," and throw a radiance upon the countenances of the elton beaux and belles. The orchestra generally occupies one end of the apartment, and the company is arranged in two lines, the ladies upon one side and the gentlemen upon the other. The glittering throng at "Almac's" cannot outvie in dress the glittering throng at an Antigua negro-ball. Fashion exerts her power, and seldom finds more devoted votaries than among these dark damsels, and their loving swains.—Antigua and the Antiguans.

YANKEE RATIONCINATION.—A distinguished clergyman of the Universalist denomination was accused, while in Lowell, of "violently dragging his wife from a revival meeting, and compelling her to go with him." He replied:—"Firstly, I have never attempted to influence my wife in her views, nor her choice of a meeting; secondly, my wife has not attended any of the revival meetings in Lowell; thirdly, I have not attended even one of those meetings, for any purpose whatever; fourthly, neither my wife nor myself has any inclination to attend those meetings; and fifthly, I never had a wife!"—New Orleans paper.

CATCHING TURTLE.—Here, off Mitylene, no turtle have to-day made their appearance. Should they but foolishly come to the surface, the heat of an October *Ægean* sun (so genial that we use not shawls or stockings) must soon induce sleep. There is much sport in catching turtle, as well as gastronomic pleasure in devouring them. The crab-tailed variety rise and float on the surface, and then fall asleep; the boat is cautiously closed close up to them—silence is the order of the day—care is taken to approach by the rear, so that if they open their heavy eyelids nothing but sea may meet their drowsy gaze. They are generally too lazy to turn their heads, although as quick as lightning in diving and escaping if sufficiently disturbed. But "slow and sure" is the rule to be noted on. The boat at the "nick of time" advances; two anxious bowmen lean over her side; a sudden grab is made by one or both at the turtle's fins; he struggles, attempts to bite—but it won't do! "Shelly," your "paw" is in the fist of a ruthless tar, and soon shall the cook's coppers receive you!—Flags are now shown from the ship, indicating "pull to starboard," or "pull to port," "go farther a-head," or look astern." Each signal is obeyed; and in a very short time, though some turtle may succeed in baffling their pursuers, many others find themselves floundering in the bottom of the boats. Flushed with success, the happy mariners soon regain their vessel, looking forward to an aldermanic meal, whereby the monotony of beef and pork and then pork and beef, is to be broken through. Another dish is "for the nonce" to smoke upon the board.—Nautical Magazine.

SCHISM.—Schism is theirs whose cause it is; and he makes the separation who gives the first cause of it, not he who makes an actual separation upon a just cause preceding.—Archbishop Laud.

BEAU BRUMMELL AND THE PRINCE OF WALES.—Lord Alvanly, Brummell, Henry Pierpont, and Sir Harry Midland gave, at the Hanover-square Rooms, a fete, which was called the Dandies' Ball. Alvanly was a friend of the Duke of York's; Harry Midland, young, and had never been introduced to the Prince; Pierpont knew him slightly; and Brummell was in *dangers*—drawing with his Royal Highness. No invitation, therefore, was sent to the prince; but the ball excited much interest and expectation; and, to the surprise of the Amphitryon, a communication was received from the present. Nothing interesting was left but to send him an invitation; which was done in due form, and in the names of the four spirited givers of the ball. The next question was, how they were to receive their guest; which after some discussion, was arranged thus: when the approach of the prince was announced, each of the four gentlemen took in due form, a candle in his hand. Pierpont, as knowing the prince, stood near the door, with his wax-light, and Midland, as being young and void of office, opposite; Alvanly, with Brummell opposite, stood immediately within the other two. The prince at length arrived; and, as was expected, spoke civilly with recognition to Pierpont, and then turned and spoke a few words to Midland; advancing, he addressed several sentences to Alvanly; and then turned towards Brummell, looked at him, but as if he did not know who he was or why he was there, and without bestowing upon him the slightest symptom of recognition. It was then, at the very instant he passed on, that Brummell, seizing with infinite fun and readiness the notion that they were unknown to each other, said across to his friend, and aloud, for the purpose of being heard, "Alvanly, whose your fat friend? Those who were in front and saw the Prince's face, say that he was out to the quick by the aptness of the satire."

A MEXICAN BUTCHER'S SHOP.—It is about the size of a stall, the whole front being open to the street, with a fine game cock, tied by the leg, on the sill. Suspended from the ceiling, and but two or three feet from the doorway, hangs the entire carcass of a beef; at a short distance behind is the counter; and in the rear of this again is a row of kids and delicate morsels, festooned with gilt paper and yards of sausages, hung in the most tasteful lines and curves. In the centre of this carnal show rests an image of the Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, under whose protection he thus places his larval and his "custom." The most interesting figure, however, in the picture is the butcher himself, a sentimental-looking fellow, with black eyes, curling locks, and altogether a most captivating personage, barring a sort of oily lustre that polishes his skin. Invariably fine and lounging romantically over his saw and cleaver, strumming his guitar to half a dozen house maids, who, doubtless, are attracted to his stinks by his amorous staves. It is rare to see such a mixture of meat and music. What would be said with us at home, to see the celebrated Jones or Smith, in the Fulton market, mounted on his block, with a blue ribbon round his neck, and a dozen damsels grouped around him, listening with rapt air, to the pet *moreau* of the last opera! Yet the suggestion might be useful in these days, when invention is taxed to the utmost for new modes of attracting the people. In Mexico, at any rate, it is characteristic, and I have therefore noted it.—Mayer's Mexico as it was.

THE SHERIFF AND HIS OPERA-BOX.—This anecdote may just now be not unreasonable. In Catani's second season in London, one of the sheriffs for the time being considered it as a necessary appendage to his dignity that he should have his box at the opera. He was too late, however, in his application; every box was let. Nevertheless, though never knowing nor caring anything about music—a box he would have; so, accordingly, a small portion of the slip, at the top of the house, was partitioned off to serve as a box for him. But when payment for it was demanded, he demurred. "Upon what ground?" he was asked: "the box is high certainly; but you can see everything and everybody." "Well, I don't deny," said the gold-chained functionary, "I can see everything and everybody; but, sir, nobody can see me."

AFRICAN HAIRDRESSING.—Both Ishak and the son of the Bookish chief had received sheep, and the slaughter of each had been followed by a general tussle for the possession of the carl. For the purpose of larding the head this is a prize infinitely preferred even to the tail, which appendage in Adel sheep, is so copiously furnished, that the animal is said to be capable of subsisting an entire year upon the absorption of its own fat without tasting water. It was truly delightful to witness the process of greasing the poll at the hands of the Danakil barber. The fat having been melted down in a wooden bowl, the operator, removing his quid, and placing it in a secure position behind the left ear, proceeded to suck up copious mouthfuls of the liquid, which he then spat, who with mantle drawn before his eyes to exclude stray portions of tallow, remained quiescent on his haunches, a very picture of patience. The bowl exhausted, the operator carefully collects the suet that has so creamed around his cheeks as to render him inarticulate, and, having dis smeared the same over the filthy garment of him to whom it is equity belongs, proceeds with a skewer, to put the last finishing touch to his work, which, the last congealed, had gradually assumed the desired aspect of a fine, full-blown callflower.—The Highlands of Ethiopia.

GOOD ADVICE.—Call on a business man in business hours, only on business; transact your business, and go about your business, in order to give him time to finish his business.

EDITORIAL REMARK.—"How seldom it happens," said one friend to another, "that we find editors bred to the business." "Very," replied the other, "and have you not remarked how seldom the business is bred to the editors?"

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